

PANAY SCOUTS.

Characteristics of the Troops that
Will be Used Against Ladrones.

LOILO, ISLE OF PANAY.
Special correspondence to THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE.
The organization of the Panay Scouts and similar bodies of native soldiers in the Philippines would indicate that the Government intends to use some of these Filipino organizations to take the place of the departing volunteers. Certainly these native soldiers are well worth using for home garrisons, scouts, messengers and patrols. Your correspondent has been drilling these new members of Uncle Sam's forces since the Panay scouts were first formed about five months ago.

Only one scout out of the four companies on the island of Panay has deserted. The others are all accounted for, and have been very effective in the performance of their duties. They are of

prefer to watch others do something than do it themselves, the American soldiers always have a good and appreciative audience whenever they drill or shoot.

RELIGIOUS PROCESSIONS.
I have found the inhabitants of Iloilo, and, in fact, of the island of Panay wherever I have been, all very religious. It is not unusual to see nearly the entire population of some smaller town or of some district of Iloilo, young and old alike, marching in a church procession. Usually in Iloilo these columns of marchers are accompanied by a band and often a choir.

No matter what a Filipino may wear on other occasions, when the church is concerned he turns out in his very best, and these processions present a gorgeous display of native finery, with some styles of later introduction, the result of American occupation of the island.

I have seen as many as 25 of these processions in Iloilo during the past year.

FILIPINOS ADOPTING AMERICAN CUSTOMS.
The writer arrived in the Philippines with the first troops of occupation during the Spanish-American war, and noticed that a very large majority of the Filipinos ate their meals from a common pot of rice, or corn, which was placed in the family circle on the floor.

All seated themselves about this dish

TRANSPORTING OF MILITARY STORES.

Observations of an American Officer With the Allied Troops in China.

Capt. Thomas Franklin, A. C. S. U. S. V., who accompanied the American contingent to China, when the Allied troops assembled to rescue the besieged legation in Peking, on his return to Manila, P. I., forwarded to the Adjutant-General of the United States Army a report of his observations while in China, in which he says:

"As there is no doubt in my mind that the American soldier was the best fighting man of all the allies, I shall only draw comparisons from which we can benefit (I believe), between his needs and supplies and those of his quondam friends."

"In the first place he required more and better food than they, and he got it. This fact astonished the European troops above all else. A British officer said to me: 'How often do you give your men this excellent food?' 'Twenty-one times a week if they want it,' said I; and he didn't believe me. But while our food and other supplies were infinitely more generous in quantity and quality than that of the others, it was not packed with the scrupulous care for safe carriage and quick handling. In this particular the Japanese and British were without rivals."

"The Japanese allowed few packages to exceed 100 pounds in weight or about three cubic feet in volume. All boxes, generally, except ammunition cases, etc., were covered with rice-straw matting neatly sewed with the same material at the corners, and tied in two directions with a rope or braid of the same. Sacks were also protected with a like outer covering. This material is light, strong and very elastic and protected the inner case or sack so thoroughly that their loss from broken packages was practically nil."

"Then also the small size and moderate weight of the packages permitted rapid handling, and, whether it was at the transport's side, 12 miles off shore in a heavy swell, unloading from lighters to wharves or rail cars, or from the lighters, or from little river junks to store-piles, or wagon or pack trains at Tung Chow, it aroused the envy of an American Quartermaster's supplies, as a rule, were very poorly put up, cases too large and much too heavy. More proportionate breakage of cases occurred in this class than any other. Then, too, the cases should be made with reference to fitting an escort wagon."

"Most all of the ordnance stores were put up in very bulky and heavy packages. I remember several cases of powder that weighed 400 pounds net, and it took all the coolies that could crowd around it to lift it into a wagon. A 100-pound case would have been much better."

"Medical supplies were better put up as regards weight and volume, but many cases were of too flimsy material to withstand the hard usage of such long and complex transportation."

master to see the rapidity with which these homogenous packages were handled. They fitted the coolie laborer and the coolie fitted them exactly, for everything is carried on head or shoulders."

"Contrast this with a case of stationery, weight 600 pounds, put up in a thin, flimsy white-pine case, and which from rough handling and its own weakness has come to pieces in the bottom of a junk."

"Think of the coolie never lost to stealing even if he knew the contents of the case. If this particular case had been put up in six 100-pound boxes, they would have arrived in good order, and have been unloaded in a title of time."

"The British (Indian Army), practice is very much the same. Small uniform packages, with a heavy jute sack instead of the Japanese straw matting. One hundred and sixty pounds is the load for their packmules, hence their transportation was nearly all pack-trains, their packages averaged about 80 pounds."

"The Russians did not seem to have much of any stores except a liberal supply of ammunition, which, as was the practice of all the powers, was put up in small, neat, strong packages of about 80 pounds."

"The French, that is those who came at first, viz., Marine Infantry, I believe from a collection of a number of stores of all shapes and sizes, which seemed to have been purchased for the occasion in various East Asian ports, judging from the marks upon them. The troops who came later had regular supplies, generally nicely packed, but not with the same care as those of the British and Japanese. They also had some mean packages to transport, viz., Claret cases of great size and weight. It was a common occurrence for the monotony of our teamsters' life to be broken by the sight of an obstinate Chinese mule, an incite Frenchman and an overturned Peking cart with its load of one wine cask at the bottom of some gully."

"The foregoing remarks apply to the Italians and Austrians as well."

"The Germans were as bad as ourselves; they had their stores in big, flimsy cases, and in consequence I saw many broken at every shipping point. As they had little or no transportation except what they slowly gathered in the country, they were not able to buy before, as no one had them for sale."

"The Americans have established some new customs for the dress of the natives, and new white suits have superseded breech cloth."

"The markets of the Philippines are one of the interesting features to foreigners. It certainly pays one to devote considerable time to going through the markets, for in these he will find all sorts of native characters, from the native belle to the laundress of the hills."

"The merchants carry lines of small wares, clothes, cigars, matches, trinkets, etc."

Saying a Lot.

English Sport—Old McGuffies was considered a clever pugilist in his day, wasn't he?
American Sport—Should say so. Why, he was one of the cleverest pugilists that ever stepped behind a bar!

A CHURCH PROCESSION IN LOILO.

considerable assistance to the United States soldiers in identifying suspects and in rounding-up ladrones and guerrillas.

The country was overrun with freebooters last Summer, but since there have been many small detachments of these scouts on the trails the cut-throats have been obliged to seek the jungle or disband.

In most cases the detachments of Panay scouts are stationed with the American garrisons in the cities and towns, occupying the same barracks. From these points the scouts are sent out as needed in command of an American officer or non-commissioned officers.

The scouts have been drilled in the same manual and with American commands, so that they can work well with our own men. Although not excelling in courage, the native soldier stands his ground well under fire.

When I got into a tight place I got in the rear of the scouts, with revolver ready to shoot down the first scout that attempts to run. In this way the scout knows that there is as much danger in his rear as in front, and he will stand to his post until ordered to retreat.

I notice that many of the scouts are inclined to be misical. Our band is made up from the musical members who have managed to secure instruments through popular subscriptions and from savings from salaries. The band is a good one, and does much toward passing away the long evening hours.

WATCHING TARGET PRACTICE.
The Filipinos enjoy watching the U. S. soldiers at target practice. The Filipinos appear to have a great amount of waste time on their hands, and as they

prefer to watch others do something than do it themselves, the American soldiers always have a good and appreciative audience whenever they drill or shoot.

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Passing of the Minnesota.
The old Minnesota is to be offered for sale at auction, following the custom of disposing of naval vessels which have outlived their usefulness. The passing of the Minnesota is an historic incident. The vessel figured in several important naval fights, including the engagement between the Merrimack and the Union squadron in Hampton Roads. The Minnesota has been used at Boston as a barracks for the Massachusetts Naval Militia, but the latter organization has no further use for it. There was some talk of the Minnesota being used as a receiving ship for landmen, but a board of naval officers has reported her unseaworthy and so far deteriorated as to warrant her sale. The vessel, which cost \$20 per cent. limit of the law. The old Minnesota was built in Washington in 1855.

How a Spider Killed a Snake.
"Some years ago," said an official of the Bureau of Entomology, "a gentleman living in Cheating County, N. Y., had a pet spider in his store. It was a little brown-colored fellow, and made its home under one of the counters. One day the spider discovered a small snake near the nest, and he at once determined to capture the reptile before it had a chance to get him."

"The snake was what was known as a milk snake, and didn't seem disposed to be in a hurry about getting away. The spider was already at work when the storekeeper discovered the snake. With all the care possible the spider placed a loop around the neck of the snake, weaving the little silk-like threads with wonderful rapidity. When the spider was satisfied that the cable was sufficiently strong to support the weight of the snake he began to arrange for pulley-like tackle and in a little while the snake's head was lifted off the floor and gradually its whole body was drawn off the floor, and swung around under the top of the counter where

the spider had his home. To make doubly sure of his work the little spider passed rapidly up and down the cable adding strand after strand of web. When this was accomplished to the entire satisfaction of the spider he then began the most wonderful part of his whole work. He watched every chance and whenever the snake's head was turned to one side he would throw a strand of web over his head, and in less than half an hour the snake's mouth was bound firm and fast—perfectly muzzled so that it was impossible for it to bite the spider."

"Before the work was finished the little spider showed signs of breaking down, moving about with unsteady gait, but he did not retire to his den until the snake was bound so that it was impossible for it to get free."

"Gentlemen who witnessed this truly wonderful feat, say that it was five days before the snake died. Of course if the spider had been poisonous he could have hastened its death, but at no time did he sting the snake. This is the most wonderful and remarkable spider story which has ever reached us, and it is vouched for by

some of the best people now living in Cheating County."

"Give the house spiders a chance; don't kill them; they will do lots of service in destroying flies as well as poisonous insects."

The Romance of Business.
According to a special dispatch to the Evening Wisconsin, of Milwaukee, Commander M. W. Adams, of Blairtown, N. J., who served in the civil war in the 8th battery, Wis. L. A., with a fine war record, has secured for himself a good wife by a matrimonial advertisement. He is a well-educated, shrewd farmer, comfortably well off, and 55 years old. He lived happily with his wife until seven years ago, when she died. Several months ago Adams inserted an advertisement for a wife in a newspaper. It was answered by Mrs. Skinner, whom, as Miss Lizzie E. Lamb, he had known in Wisconsin. They had drifted apart, but the advertisement brought them together again. He threw the other advertisements in the fire, and the two were married at a reunion of veterans.

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are included in the chapter "The Cavalry at Santiago." The Governor has corrected in this work many of the misstatements made by correspondents at the time. This volume forms the greater part of the history of the Spanish-American War, and up to this writing has only been sold at \$2.00 a copy. The Governor, however, has permitted a special limited edition to be published and on which we made a most liberal offer.

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The book, however, will be found to treat not only of prison life, but to abound in incidents of the camp, the march, and the battlefield. In fact, there is no better told narrative extant of the stirring ex-

periences of a cavalier than there is to be found in this story. The reader of these pages will go with the author into his life and see how the boy was transformed into a soldier; will march with him over mountains and across rivers; will camp on the hillside and stand guard in the moonlight and in the rain storm; will be with him as a videt in the lonely forest, and again in the wild charge. The humorous, the pathetic, the preposterous, the extravagant phases of war are all told with the pen of a master. Finally comes grim battle, the defeat, the surrender, the traveling through the South as a prisoner of war; the experience in Richmond prisons and at ghastly Belle Isle; then comes the climax in the prison stockade at Andersonville itself, with its 40,000 men, its poverty, its starvation, its death. All these things are told with the dramatic power of truth, and they are

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